

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) : Hiroyuki SUGAWARA et al.  
Serial No. : 10/638,988  
For : DATA STORAGE SYSTEM  
Filed : August 12, 2003  
Examiner : Olubusola Oni  
Art Unit : 2168  
Confirmation No.: : 6298

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on September 20, 2006 having a three-month statutory period for response set to expire on December 20, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.